

CLIPPER COVE RESOLUTION TALKING POINTS

With the transfer of Treasure Island to the City of San Francisco we have begun to even more deeply appreciate all that the Island offers.

One location in particular where public activity has skyrocketed over the last 10 years is Clipper Cove. Lying next to the Bay Bridge, Clipper Cove is cradled between the arms of Treasure Island and Yerba Buena. Formally closed to the public during the Navy era, the Cove is now open and has recently been recognized as one of the most well protected and scenic small boat harbors on the West Coast.

The unique geography of the Cove offers flat water with moderate wind while providing shelter from the notorious tidal currents and winds of the Central Bay.

At 81 acres, 10 times the size of McCovey Cove, **Clipper Cove is the largest and most well-protected open-water cove in San Francisco**. Since opening to the public, Clipper Cove has found fans ranging from dragon boaters to Olympic racers.

Clipper Cove is home to TISC – the Treasure Island Sailing Center - the only community sailing center in San Francisco. **The Sailing Center provides educational and recreational boating and sailing programs on Clipper Cove to over 4,000 youth and adults each year.**

A sailing and science STEM program hosted by TISC serves over 1,500 students each year from San Francisco public schools. For many of youth these classes are their first experience being on the water and their first close-up experience of the San Francisco Bay. **Over the last five years the program has brought onto the Bay over 5,000 4th and 5th graders from 41 public elementary schools across San Francisco.**

Clipper Cove is also a critically important ecological site, hosting beds of eelgrass, a critically important keystone species in the San Francisco Bay and one of the rarest habitats in California.

In sum, Clipper Cove is a San Francisco gem, serving the entire city and providing critically important bio-diversity.

Recently a long-dormant proposal has re-surfaced to develop Clipper Cove through the development of a large private marina. Given the irreplaceable value of Clipper Cove it is critically important that such development be guided by sound planning. After hearing from many stakeholders I have drafted a board resolution to help establish principles and criteria to encourage sound and efficient planning in the development of Clipper Cove. I ask for your support in helping to steward a resource that serves all of San Francisco.